

CUTS LATEST PUBLICATIONS

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

DISCUSSION PAPER

Eco-labels: Trade Barriers or Trade Facilitators?

Introduction

The Indian case for eco-labels is reviewed in the context of the 'WTO Agreements' programme. The 'first principles' of trade policy are identified as a starting point for reviewing, addressing and understanding 'green' trade policy requirements. The paper then discusses the role of eco-labels in a global context and concludes that, in order to be a trade policy option, they must be able to provide a net benefit to the public. This will be possible if the benefits of a product exceed the costs of the production process. The paper concludes that the benefits of a product exceed the costs of the production process in most cases, and that the benefits of a product exceed the costs of the production process in most cases.

By the late 1980s and early 1990s, over 120 international and national trade policy organisations had adopted a 'first principles' approach to trade policy. This approach is based on the idea that trade policy should be based on the principle of comparative advantage. This approach is based on the idea that trade policy should be based on the principle of comparative advantage. This approach is based on the idea that trade policy should be based on the principle of comparative advantage.

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Eco-labels: Trade Barriers or Trade Facilitators?

This discussion paper evaluates the potential of eco-labels to be trade facilitators and conversely trade barriers. It takes the approach of 'first principles' by defining eco-labels and elaborating on objectives and classification of these labels. The paper takes the approach of 'first principles' by defining eco-labels and elaborating on objectives and classification of these labels. It brings out the potentially conflicting impacts of eco-labels in terms of protectionism and trade facilitation and illustrates this discussion through an elaboration of the Indian case.

The paper analyses the relevance of eco-labels for the WTO and vice-versa, and concretises this discussion through elucidation of some of the major disputes triggered by eco-labels.

This Discussion Paper can be viewed at: <http://www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/DP-Eco-labels.pdf>

BRIEFING PAPER

Indian Ecomark Scheme – The Need for an Alternative Framework

While the world market has become progressively an open and free market, 'protectionism' remains a reality. This is not a new phenomenon of recent origin. The paper discusses the need for an alternative framework for the Indian Ecomark Scheme. The paper discusses the need for an alternative framework for the Indian Ecomark Scheme. The paper discusses the need for an alternative framework for the Indian Ecomark Scheme.

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Indian Ecomark Scheme – The Need for an Alternative Framework

This briefing paper attempts to make a comparative study of the existing provisions of the scheme and suggest suitable modifications or changes needed with necessary justifications. This paper assumes vital significance because the National Environment Policy Statement of India adopted in 2006 has recognised the role of eco-labels in promoting environmental conservation.

The Policy states that action would be taken to formulate "Good Practice Guidelines" for eco-labels to enhance their scientific basis, transparency and suitability of requirements for participation and at the same time promote the mutual recognition of Indian and foreign eco-labels.

This Briefing Paper can be viewed at: <http://www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/BP09-DI-05.pdf>



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BRIEFING PAPER

Trade and Climate Change: UNEP and WTO Report – Focus on LDCs

The briefing paper is a summary of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) report on trade and climate change. It focuses on the impact of the WTO and UNEP report on the environment and the impact of the climate crisis on the East African Community (EAC) and the impact of the climate crisis on the environment.

World temperatures are expected to increase between 1.5°C and 2°C by 2100. The increase in CO2 will be roughly equivalent to 200 billion tonnes of coal. The increase in CO2 will be roughly equivalent to 200 billion tonnes of coal. The increase in CO2 will be roughly equivalent to 200 billion tonnes of coal.

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Trade and Climate Change: UNEP and WTO Report – Focus on LDCs

This briefing paper gives a summary of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) report on trade and climate change with emphasis on its repercussions on Least Developed Countries (LDCs). This is the first time the WTO and UNEP have collaborated to report on the issue of global warming. A chart summarising effects of the climate crisis on the East African Community (EAC) has been added by the author on the basis of information available in other sources in the literature.

This Briefing Paper can be viewed at:
<http://www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/BP09-DI-06.pdf>

Briefing Paper

The Most Favoured-Nation Provision in the EC-EAC EPA and its Implications

The MFN principle is that if a country grants a trade concession to one country, it must grant the same concession to all other countries. This principle is a cornerstone of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and is also a key element of the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs).

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The Most Favoured-Nation Provision in the EC-EAC EPA and its Implications

The inclusion of the most-favoured nation (MFN) clause as drafted in the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) is definitely a contentious matter. There is, hence, a need for further research to determine potential adverse impact of the clause by undertaking a line-by-line analysis particularly on tariff lines where the EAC has not given deep concessions to EC in the EPA market access negotiations. This would be useful in determining whether a better comparative advantage of EC compared to the 'major trading economies' would deter the latter from entering into bilateral/regional trade concessions with the East African Community/African, Caribbean and Pacific (EAC/ACP) countries. Such an analysis would then be the basis upon which the MFN clause should or should not be included in the final EPA.

This Briefing Paper can be viewed at:
http://www.cuts-grc.org/pdf/BIEAC-BP09-EC-EAC_EPA_and_its_Implications.pdf

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT



Export Taxes and EPAs - Another Policy Tool under Threat from the EC?

Introduction

The paper discusses the use of export taxes in the EAC, and how they may be used to improve the competitiveness of EAC countries. It also discusses the use of export taxes in the EAC, and how they may be used to improve the competitiveness of EAC countries.

What is an Export Tax?

An export tax is a duty applied to exports of goods from a country to another country. It is a form of protection for domestic industries, and can be used to improve the competitiveness of a country's export sector.

Export Taxes and EPAs

Export taxes and EPAs are both used to improve the competitiveness of a country's export sector. They can be used together, or separately, to achieve the same goal.

Export Taxes and EPAs: A Comparison

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Export Taxes and EPAs: Another Policy Tool under Threat from the EC?

This briefing paper will look specifically at the issue of export taxes in the European Union (EU)-EAC EPA negotiations. The aim of this paper is to show that export taxes can play an important role in improving the development objectives of EAC countries, promoting value addition, protecting infant industries and improving agricultural productivity. The paper discusses the use of export taxes in the EAC, before examining the reasoning behind the EU's stance on export taxes in EPA negotiations and finally giving an illustration of where export taxes have been applied successfully in realising a country's development objectives.

This Briefing Paper can be viewed at:
http://www.cuts-grc.org/pdf/BIEAC-BP09-Export_Taxes_and_EPAs_Another_Policy.pdf

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT



Standards and Market Access under EPAs

Introduction

The paper discusses the use of standards in the EAC, and how they may be used to improve the competitiveness of EAC countries. It also discusses the use of standards in the EAC, and how they may be used to improve the competitiveness of EAC countries.

Standards and Market Access

Standards and market access are both used to improve the competitiveness of a country's export sector. They can be used together, or separately, to achieve the same goal.

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Standards and Market Access under EPAs: Implications and Way forward for EAC

In order for developing countries to achieve significant export growth rates, there is need to increase the range of their processed agricultural products accessing developed country markets. However, this has not been the case due to many supply and demand-side challenges, among which is the lack of capacity to meet increasingly more stringent food safety and other private standards as well as consumer preferences in the developed countries.

The economic costs associated with meeting high EU standards when a country has only a limited volume of production is particularly important for developing countries. In this context, derogation provisions will need to be developed, which allow greater use to be made of non-originating raw materials, where this allows the unit costs of sanitary and phyto-sanitary (SPS)-compliance in the countries concerned to be reduced to an economically viable level.

This Briefing Paper can be viewed at:
http://www.cuts-grc.org/pdf/BIEAC-BP09-Standards_and_Market_Access_under_EPAs.pdf

